EXCISE.

(Nos. 172 to 178.)

SUBJECT No. 172.

An Excise Conference.

Messrs. B. Alasingrachar and Dod dapayanna, Hassan taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The working of the Excise Regulation, the Excise Rules, and the License conditions causes a good deal of hardship and loss to the ryots. With a view to ascertain and discuss the existing difficulties and to suggest remedies for the same, the Government may be pleased to authorize the Excise Commissioner to invite the District Excise Officers and experienced contractors to a Conference.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 173.

Excise sales.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao Shimoga municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The average yield for ten years of each excise shop may be taken as indicative of its rental and the shop given to an approved contractor at an upset price. The increase of revenue is in many cases due to unwholesome competition amongst the bidders.

Reply of Government.—This is not possible.

SUBJECT No. 174.

Payment of excise *khist*.

Messrs. B. Alasingrachar and Dod dapayanna, Hassan taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly excise contractors were allowed to pay their monthly *khist* within the 10th of the subsequent month. This rule is now changed and the monthly *khists* are now required to be paid within the 20th of the same month, failing which, interest at half per cent per mensem is levied. This is no doubt a source of income to Government but is a source of great hardship to the contractors. It is prayed that the old rules be revived.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 175.

Sub-letting toddy shops.

Mr. Chennappa, Channagiri taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Contractors, who have obtained the right of vending toddy in shops, may be allowed to sub-let them to others.

Reply of Government.—The existing provision is enough.

SUBJECT No. 176.

Bagani trees on *hiduvali* lands.

(1) Mr. T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association.

(2) Mr. Kalle Gowda, Mudgere taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Land-holders in malnad may be allowed to tap bagani trees on their lands for their *bona fide* use. This will not involve any loss of revenue to the State.

(2) *Per contra.*—If the suggestion made last year to give each *hiduvalidar* the right to tap ten *bagani* trees on *hiduvali* lands is favourably considered it is likely to encourage drinking which is one of the causes for the deci-

mation of the malnad population. It is requested therefore that the prayer may not be granted.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 177.

Penalty on dead date trees.

Messrs. B. Alasingrachar and Doddapayanna, Hassan taluk.

Summary of discussion.—A penalty of one rupee on every dead date tree is being levied from the toddy contractors. Usually out of every 100 trees, 10 to 15 die without being tapped, and it is no wonder that many more trees should die after they are tapped. Consequently the levy of penalty in addition to tree tax is really harassing to the contractor. It is therefore prayed that the recovery of penalty on dead trees may be done away with.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 178.

Excise revenue of inam villages.

Messrs. Madappa, Mysore taluk, and Gundappa, Mysore District Board.

Summary of discussion.—The excise revenue from date trees in inam villages has not been paid to inamdars since 1897. Though many petitions have been presented nothing has been done on the ground that Rule 13 is to be amended, while coercive processes are adopted for the recovery of any dues from such inamdars. It is therefore prayed that Rule 13 be amended early to give relief to inamdars.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

RAILWAYS.

(Nos. 179 to 191.)

SUBJECT No. 179.

Motor service between Tarikere and Koppa.

Messrs. H. Krishna Rao and A. Guru Rao, Kadur District Board.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 180.

Railway from Benkipur or Shimoga to Koppa.

Messrs. Krishnappa and Channakesava Rao, Koppa taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Koppa is situated at a distance of 55 miles from the Tarikere railway station. There is no easy communication from Koppa to any railway station. A railway line may be opened from Benkipur or Shimoga to Koppa or if this is too costly, a tramway may be constructed.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 181.

Railway from Nanjangud to Gundlupet.

Mr. Volahatti Devappa, Gundlupet taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Passengers as well as goods traffic has been increasing rapidly between Gundlupet and Mysore and merchants who carry on trade from Nilgiri, Batheri, Wynaad and Coorg find it extremely hard to go as far as Nanjangud. The hardships the public are put to may be removed by the construction of a railway between Nanjangud and Gundlupet which is sure to yield a large revenue to the State.

Reply of Government.—Noted.